Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 PRS-01 CPR-01 SY-05 /054 W

P 021750Z AUG 77 FM AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1741 INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON AMCONSUL OPORTO COMUSFORAZ

CONFIDENTIAL PONTA DELGADA 0289

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP, PINT, PO

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S REFUELING STOP AT LAJES

- 1. SECRETARY VANCE WAS MET AT LAJES DURING THE AUGUST 1 REFUELING STOP BY THE MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC, GENERAL GALVAO DE FIGUERIDO; PEDRO DOS SANTOS GOMES FROM THE FOREIGN MINISTRY; ALVARO MONJARDINO, PRESIDENT OF THE REGIONAL ASSEMBLY; JOSE GUILHERME REIS LEITE, REGIONAL SECRETARY OF EDUCATION(AND AZOREAN REPRESENTATIVE IN LAJES BASE NEGOTIATIONS PREPARATORY TALKS) REPRESENTING REGIONAL PRESIDENT MOTA AMARAL; BRIG. CONCEICAO SILVA, AIR ZONE COMMANDER, AND MAJOR VALDEMAR CLEMENTE, AID OF THE MINISTER.
- 2. SECRETARY VANCE INVITED THE PORTUGUESE OFFICIALS TO COFFEE ON BOARD HIS PLANE. GEN. FIGUERIDO BROUGHT GREETINGS FROM FOREIGN MINISTER MEDEIROS FERREIRA. IN THE COURSE OF THE GENERAL SOCIAL CONVERSATION, THE SECRETARY ASKED THE MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC ABOUT CONDITIONS IN PORTUGAL. THE MINISTER REPLIED PORTUGAL WAS MORE STABLE NOW, THE PASSAGE OF THE AGRARIAN REFORM LAW WAS A MAJOR DEFEAT FOR THE COMMUNISTS; THE LAWS ON COMPENSATION FOR NATIONALIZED PROPERTYAND STRIKES HAD HELPED RESTORE CONFIDENCE IN THE ECONOMY. WITH REFERENCE TO THE INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT, CONFIDENTIAL

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DR. MONJARDINO EXPLAINED THAT IT HAD NO SIGNIFICANT POLITICAL FORCE, WAS CONCENTRATED ON SAO MIGUEL AND, TO DATE, RIGHT WING EXTREMIST.

3. COMMENT: NEITHER THE CONSULATE NOR COMUSFORAZ KNEW OF THE INTENTION OF ANY PORTUGUESE OFFICIALS TO GREET THE SECRETARY BEFORE THE AFTERNOON OF JULY 31 WHEN THE LOCAL POLICE CHIEF

| INFORMED A BASE SECURITY OFFICER THAT THE MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC |
|--|
| WOULD BE PRESENT WHEN THE SECRETARY'S PLANE LANDED. WE DID NOT |
| KNOW THE OTHER PORTUGUESE OFFICIALS WOULD BE PRESENT BEFORE THEY |
| SHOWED UP. |

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TAGS: OVIP, PINT, PO, US, (VANCE, CYRUS R), (DE FIGUERIDO, GALVAO)

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